

The Pony Express

The Pony Express, officially the Central Overland California & Pike's Peak Express Company, lasted from April 1860 until October 1861. Normal communication methods took upwards of 25 days to reach the West Coast; the Pony Express took ten. From St. Joseph, Missouri to San Francisco, California, the trail spanned 2,000 miles and traversed through Kansas, Nebraska, Wyoming, Utah, and Nevada. Although the Pony Express was a wild leap forward in communication speed, it was nothing compared to the telegraph which spanned the country by October 1861, effectively killing the Pony Express.

Primary Source

<https://history.nebraska.gov/sites/history.nebraska.gov/files/doc/Pony%20Express%20%5bRG2409%5d.pdf>

Secondary Source

<https://www.nps.gov/poex/learn/historyculture/index.htm>

